

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO: Jennifer Velez
Commissioner

FROM: Kevin Martone
Assistant Commissioner

DATE: June 6, 2008

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDS FOR HOME TO RECOVERY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING INITIATIVE FOR CONSUMERS DISCHARGED FROM STATE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS

Please find for your review and approval two (2) Notices of Availability of Grant Funds for the Home to Recovery Supportive Housing Initiative for Consumers Discharged from State Psychiatric Hospitals. Although only the Notice needs to be published in the New Jersey Register, a copy of the entire Request for Proposal is available for your review.

Using State-appropriated funds, the Division of Mental Health Services is announcing the availability of funds to develop or expand enhanced Supportive Housing Services. These services are being specifically developed to address the housing and community support needs of discharge ready individuals as identified by the DMHS, from Greystone Park, Trenton, Ancora, and Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospitals. The goals of this program are to assist in the development of skills and supports that promote wellness, recovery and resiliency; including community integration, illness management, socialization, work readiness and skills and opportunities that foster increased personal responsibility for one's life.

The attached notices announce separately the availability of up to \$3M in State-appropriated funds to support these projects. Funds will be allocated for a minimum of 75 individuals to be discharged from psychiatric facilities statewide per proposal. One proposal targets consumers ready for discharge who have severe mental illness and challenging behaviors that historically have presented as barriers to discharge. The second proposal targets those consumers ready for discharge who have severe mental illness and a co-existing medical condition. Both proposals target consumers designated on CEPP status for 1+ years.

Our goal is to publish this notice in the New Jersey Register dated July 21, 2008. This notice must reach the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) by June 19, 2008 to meet this publication deadline.

PUBLIC NOTICE

HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Notice of Availability of Funds

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4 and 34.6, the Division of Mental Health Services (DMHS) hereby announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

Name of Program: Home to Recovery Enhanced Supportive Housing Initiative: Request for Proposals to Provide Enhanced Supportive Housing Services for Consumers Discharged from State Psychiatric Hospitals who may require specialized services

Purpose: This proposal seeks to extend options for community inclusion for persons discharged from the State Psychiatric Hospitals who are diagnosed with serious and persistent mental illnesses.

Amount of funding available: A total of up to \$3M is available for supportive services and project based rental assistance through this program for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. It is intended to serve up to 75 individuals. This funding is designed to facilitate the discharge of individuals in State Psychiatric facilities who have challenging behaviors that historically posed barriers to community living. Individuals eligible for services through this funding will have challenging behaviors related to long term institutionalization and/or may be very reluctant to leave the hospital requiring tailored transition plans; have cognitive impairment challenges, substance use issues,

complicated legal involvement, and/or are among the growing “Aging In” (18-25yo) population.

The objective is to encourage creative coupling of our \$3M in supportive services and project based rental assistance funding with existing capital funds, such as the Special Needs Housing Trust Fund, Section 811 housing, Department of Community Affairs programs, Public Housing Authorities, private sector funding opportunities, and other main stream housing resources. The DMHS is also encouraging collaboration between providers, including for-profit housing developers, who may have specific skills in developing housing. Funding will be awarded to select provider agencies that are developing (or demonstrate the capacity to develop) effective lease-based housing.

Organizations that may apply: In order to be eligible for consideration for this Request For Proposal, applicants must be fiscally viable profit or non-profit organization, and document demonstrable experience in successfully providing mental health support, rehabilitation, and treatment or housing services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness.

The applicant must currently meet DMHS residential licensing standards N.J.A.C. 10:37A-1.1 et seq., or be capable of meeting such standards were a contract to be awarded.

The applicant must be able to demonstrate experience and success in providing housing and supportive services in permanent, leased based housing settings, to the targeted mental health consumer described in this RFP (discharge ready from state psychiatric hospital).

The applicant must be willing to work in partnership with the DMHS to accept those consumers identified by the DMHS who will be served by these services.

The applicant must currently meet or be able to meet, the terms and conditions of the Department of Human Services contracting rules and regulations as set forth in the Standard Language Document, the Contract Reimbursement Manual (CRM) and the Contract Policy and Information Manual (CPIM).

Applicants may contact the Division of Mental Health Services Contract Unit at (609) 777-0628 with general questions about the requirements in these manuals.

Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered: Applicants must indicate how their model of Home to Recovery Supportive Housing will provide assistance in the development of skills and supports that promote wellness, recovery and resiliency; including community integration, illness management, socialization, work readiness and skills and opportunities that foster increased personal responsibility for the individual's own life.

Proposals must be feasible within budgetary parameters and should include a proposed means to evaluate the program's effectiveness.

Applicants awarded grant funds must provide reports to the DMHS contracting and regional offices, as well as to the Office of Policy, Planning, Evaluation and Technology throughout the project period.

Procedure to apply: Effective July 21, 2008, eligible and interested organizations may obtain a

Request for Proposal via the Internet at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhs/publicnotices.html> or by contacting:

Patti Holland, Assistant Director
Division of Mental Health Services
Office of Housing
Capital Center, 3rd Floor, P. O. Box 727
Trenton, NJ 08625-0727
609-777-0746

All applicants must attend a mandatory Bidders Conference:

Date of Bidders Conference: July 28, 2008
10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: The Department of Human Services
1st Floor Conference Rooms A & B
222 S. Warren St.
Trenton, NJ 08625

Applications must be submitted to:

Patti Holland, Assistant Director
Division of Mental Health Services
Office of Housing and Community Development
Capital Center, 3rd Floor, P. O. Box 727
Trenton, NJ 08625-0727
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Deadline by which all applications must be submitted: Applications must be submitted to the Division of Mental Health Services by 4:00 pm, August 22, 2008. No fax or electronic submissions will be accepted.

Please note that proposals not physically received within the above timeframe will not be considered.

Date by which applicants will be notified of acceptance or rejection. Final approval and notice of awards will occur by 4:00 pm September 30, 2008.

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

Date

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HUMAN SERVICES

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Name of Program: Home to Recovery Enhanced Supportive Housing Initiative: Request For Proposals To Provide Enhanced Supportive Housing Services Consumers discharged from State Psychiatric Hospitals with co-existing Medical Conditions

Purpose: This proposal seeks to extend options for community inclusion for persons discharged from the State Psychiatric Hospitals who are diagnosed with serious and persistent mental illnesses.

Amount of funding available: A total of up to \$3M is available for supportive services and project based rental assistance through this program for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. It is intended to serve up to 75 individuals. This Request for a Proposal (RFP) is designed to integrate primary healthcare and mental health treatment, and facilitate the discharge of individuals in State Psychiatric facilities who have chronic medical

conditions. Individuals eligible for services through this funding will have medical conditions requiring on-going monitoring and, in some cases, hands on support. This support goes beyond the ability of traditional residential programs, and will enable consumers with co-existing medical conditions to gain access to community housing that historically has not been available for them.

The objective is to encourage creative coupling of our \$3M in supportive services and project based rental assistance funding with existing capital funds, such as the Special Needs Housing Trust Fund, Section 811 housing, Department of Community Affairs programs, Public Housing Authorities, private sector funding opportunities, and other main stream housing resources. The DMHS is also encouraging collaboration between providers, including for-profit housing developers, who may have specific skills in developing housing. Funding will be awarded to select provider agencies that are developing (or demonstrate the capacity to develop) effective lease-based housing.

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The applicant must be able to demonstrate experience and success in providing housing and supportive services in permanent, leased based housing settings, to the targeted mental health consumer described in this RFP (discharge ready from state psychiatric hospital).

The applicant must be willing to work in partnership with the DMHS to accept those consumers identified by the DMHS who will be served by these services.

The applicant must currently meet or be able to meet, the terms and conditions of the Department of Human Services contracting rules and regulations as set forth in the Standard Language Document, the Contract Reimbursement Manual (CRM) and the Contract Policy and Information Manual (CPIM).

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